



# Overview of the evolving role of civil society, and the GEF CSO Network engagement within the GEF Partnership

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# Updates on GEF-CSO Network

# GEF-CSO Network



- Established in 1995 to facilitate CSO input to GEF Governance
- More than 540 active members in 16 regions and 73 member organisations in West Africa
- Facilitate Civil society input to GEF policy making and implementation.
- Organise Civil Society consultations and provide input on each agenda item of GEF Council
- Monitor and build capacity at regional and national level for CSO engagement in GEF activities

# Governance



- Governed by a global **Coordination Committee** composed of representatives of
  - elected Regional Focal Point organisations from 16 geographic regions
  - 3 Indigenous Peoples Focal Points from Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- Overseen by a Management Team comprising of a Chair, Vice Chair and Heads of 4 Sub-committees drawn from the Coordination Committee members.



# Current Management Team

- **Mr. Victor Kazembe Kawanga**, RFP for Southern Africa (**Chair**)
- **Mr. Akhteruzzaman Sano**, RFP for Southeast Asia (**Vice Chair**)
- **Ms. Patricia Turpin**, RFP for Caribbean (Head of Governance, Membership and Elections Sub-committee)
- **Ms. Nana Janashia**, RFP for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Head of Outreach, Communication and Capacity Development Sub-committee)
- **Nguavese (Representing)** , RFP for West Africa (Head of Technical Sub-committee)
- **Dr. Lalit Mohan**, RFP for South Asia (Head of Strategy Sub-committee)

# Operation



- Guided by the Network Strategic Plan (2018-2022)
- Currently there are 24 Country Contact Points
- The Secretariat :

**Society For Environment & Development (SED)**

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Delhi – 110092, India

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Contact person : Dr. Lalit Mohan



# Membership

- Open to all non profit CSOs working in the focal areas of GEF
- Application form can be downloaded from the website [www.gefcsso.org](http://www.gefcsso.org) and submitted to the Secretariat by mail.
- Membership is equivalent to accreditation to GEF – for participation in GEF related meetings

# GEF CSO Network engagement within the GEF Partnership



# Involvement in GEF



- Actively participated in the GEF Council meetings and Expanded Constituency meetings WG for Review of GEF Policies
- Providing input to GEF policy making with statements on many agenda items during GEF council meetings.
- CSOs implement projects through SGP grants
- Some CSO's are selected as members of GEF-SGP Project selection committee
- Participating in monitoring and evaluation of projects

# Involvement in GEF

- Actively participated in the GEF Council meetings and Expanded Constituency meetings.
- Providing input to GEF policy making with statements on many agenda items during GEF council meetings.
- Worked with Ad-Hoc Council Working Group (WG) on Civil Society to develop an updated vision to enhance civil society engagement with the GEF.
- Input to GEF-7 Programming directions and replenishment.

# Issues/Recommendation

- Enhance support for CSO engagement with the GEF at COPs of various multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and the SDG framework.
- Exploring ways to strengthen the relationship between GEF, Ministries, department and agencies, implementing partners and civil society
- ⌘ Call for proposals should come early so that CSOs can have the opportunity to apply

# Issues/Recommendation

- ⌘ Strengthen CSOs presence in relevant ministries/agencies/agencies by conducting proper registration/update of CSO database and documentation of CSO activities for proper referencing.
- ⌘ Increasing funding ceiling for CSOs for project implementation
- ⌘ Showcasing projects done by Agencies during ECWs alongside CSOs
- ⌘ CSOs would like to embark on in-country assessment to determine the environmental and social impacts of the investments of a number of emerging economies.



# Issues/Recommendation

- Efforts to enhance the engagement of CSOs and GEF OFP at the country level should be enhanced – through the organisation of annual meetings between OFPs and CSOs and enhanced engagement of CSOs in GEF project and programme design and implementation.
- The GEF Agencies and GEF CSO Network should undertake discussions to identify options for enhanced CSO engagement in projects and programmes developed by agencies.



*Thank you*